

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of the allowance of Claims 12-14 and 24-26, and the indication that Claims 4-6, 9-11 and 22 contain allowable subject matter, and would be allowed if amended into independent form.

The Examiner also indicated that Claim 19 has been allowed. However, Applicant believes that the Examiner intended to state that Claim 19 contains allowable subject matter and would be allowed if amended into independent form because Claim 19 is a dependent claim that refers back to independent Claim 1, which has not yet been allowed.

Claims 1-3, 7, 8, 15-18, 20, 21 and 23 stand rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-19 of United States Patent No. 7,140,412 to Tanno. In response, enclosed herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer directed to the Tanno patent. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

For all of the above reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims (Claims 1-26) should now be in condition for allowance, and an indication of such allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that any outstanding issues exist, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney.

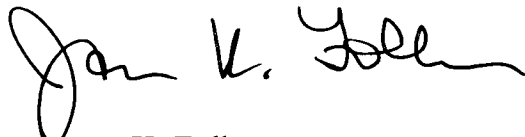
Respectfully submitted,

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